IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. KOI-046

In re patent application of

Toshihiko OBA

Serial No. 09/673,360

Filed: October 16, 2000

Title:

SPEECH TRANSFORMATION METHOD

AND APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 2641

Examiner: To be assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AUG 1 3 2001

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Prior to an initial examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Beginning at page 3, line 8:

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a speech transformation method and apparatus whereby the results of speech recognition can be presented in a noise-reduced state depending on the bodily state, the using state or the objective of using of the hearing-impaired persons.

Beginning at page 3, line 12:

It is another object of the present invention to provide a speech transformation method and apparatus whereby a person with voice-speech disorders ascribable to laryngectomy, tongue/mouth-floor resection or articulation disorder etc. is able to utter with spontaneous speech proper to the user or subject to spontaneous transformation and whereby the external speech is outputted to the user to enable spontaneous conversation.

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KOI-046

PATENT APPLICATION

2641

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED							
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	30	MINUS	30	=0	x \$9 \$18	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	2	MINUS	3	=0	x\$40 \$80	\$0.00	
Fee for Multiple Dependent Claims \$130/\$260							
			_	TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMEND- MENT		\$0.00	

- If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4,
- write "0" in Column 5.
- ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
- *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

Date: 09 Avg. 2001

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David K. Benson Reg. No. 42,314

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC 1233 20TH Street, NW Suite 501 Washington, DC 20036 Telephone: (202) 955-3750

Customer No. 23353

Facsimile: (202) 955-3751